tariff liberalization programme. The volume of trade, between the two countries is, therefore, expected to grow further, but cannot be quantified at this stage.

Modern Tobacco Barns

750. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plans to help tobacco farmers build tobacco barns to reduce fuel consumption;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that very little financial help is being given to farmers presently for this matter;

(c) what steps will be taken by Government to divert some of the huge revenues collected on Virginia tobacco products to help the Virginia tobacco farmers; and

(d) the steps proposed by Government to encourage farmers develop and build modern facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (d) As a part of fuel conservation measures, the Tobacco Board is implementing the following schemes for modernization of barns:

i. Subsidizing barn installation; and

ii. Subsidizing replacing the traditional furnaces with venture furnaces.

Under the schemes the Tobacco Board provides, a subsidy of Rs.2000/- for fixing venture furnaces and Rs.1000/- for insulation of barns. A subsidy of Rs.1800/- for barn insulation and Rs 1000/- for fixing barn is also extended by M/s ITC Ltd.

Role of Tobacco Board

751. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Tobacco Board is restricting the quantity of tobacco grown in various States;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for the Tobacco Board not helping tobacco farmers;